

MHG NEWS

JUNE 1

MIINA HÄRMA GÜMNAASIUMI
NEWSLETTER

NR.34
school year 2020/2021



WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

- We thank the organizing team of the grade 4 Exhibition presentations for a successful event with Triinu Pihus as the team leader.
- The award ceremony of the student scientists took place at ERM on May 27, where Matilda Mägi (9a) received the award for the II place.
- The students who participated in national and international olympiads as well as their supervisors, were invited to a gratitude ceremony organized by UT Teaduskool on May 31. Oliver Möttus (12a) and his supervisor Maiu Kaljuorg were invited to the event as well as our graduate student Hendrik Vija.
- We thank our teacher Urma Linnus and grade 11a for cleaning up the grave of Elisabeth Luiga at Raadi Cemetery.

BIRTHDAYS

03.06 *Tiina Aidnik*
06.06 *Paul Allas*
07.06 *Heiki Puusepp*
08.06 *Saime Aule*





WEEKLY HIGHLIGHTS

- MHG grade 10 students **Polina Trubatšova, Jekaterina Lissovskaja** and **Sandra Laur GirlPower projekti** visited the opening seminar of the Girl Power on May 25. The students were accompanied by Janika Kaljula. The event was about women in entrepreneurship and how to find access to the world of entrepreneurship
- **Rasmus Vider** (8v) received 3rd place in the 4x110m hurdles relay run with his team in the national championships of the youth U19 age group on May 29.
- **Sander Aavik** (10a) received 1st place in the same competition in the 800m relay run in the U18 age group.
- The first known exhibition boxing match took place at MHG on May 27 where the boxing skills and athletic strength were presented by the students of 10a, **Oskar Johannes Jõgeva** and **Robin Murumets**. We invite the students to show initiative in the future as well to introduce the school family to less-known types of sport like correspondence chess etc.





ANNOUNCEMENTS

- ALL WEEK - 11DP Mock Exams
- June 1 – independent study day; Child Protection Day; teachers' collaboration day; collaborative rehearsal for Härmatis folk dance groups
- June 2 – international exam in the Russian language on B1 and B2 level; Math national level test trials for 6a
- June 3 – final exam Math for grade 9; half-way summaries of grade 8 Personal Projects; 3a visiting the museum of the writer Oskar Luts; grade 3 and 4 bike licence exams; 1a on a field trip to Karilatsi
- June 4 – The Day of Estonian Flag; the gratitude ceremony of the Head of School for students that achieved high places in different contests and olympiads
- June 5–6 – final round of the Biology Olympiad for the secondary school students
- June 7–11 – preliminary exams week for grades 10 and 11
- June 7 – deadline for the yearly summative grades for grades 5–8 and 9e
- June 7–8 – 5a visiting Võrtsjärve study centre; 5–6e and 8a visiting Taevaskoja
- June 8 – Extended Essay presentation day; 3b visiting Rakvere; 3a visiting the Police Museum; 6a visiting Kiidjärve; 1b on a field trip at Vapramäe
- June 8–9 – 7a class trip to Haapsalu
- June 11 – grade 5-8 final ceremony at 11.00 , grade 1-4 final ceremony at 13.00



3rd-floor exhibition stand
presents the fidget toys.

Reusable materials only!

HURRY! The exhibition is only
open until June 9.





HISTORY CORNER

Vanda Juhansoo (1889–1966, until 1939 Johanson)

In June, Tartu City Museum opens an exhibition dedicated to Vanda Juhansoo and her creations. **Vanda Juhansoo was a well-known textile artist, handicraft master, voyager, polyglot, home decorator, activist of women's handicraft, amazing garden designer and the Art teacher at our school between 1922–1957.** She was also known as the "witch" of Valgemetsa.

The life of Vanda Juhansoo was exceptional already from the early years compared to her contemporary women. She was born and raised in Mustamental manor around Ahja and acquired her secondary education at home. In 1909, she headed to Helsinki to study ceramics and furniture design. **Greater recognition and travelling scholarships were achieved with her embroidery work.**

Travelling remained very important for Vanda and she visited Europe every summer over the course of the next thirty years. One of her students, Helgi-Maret Olvet has shared a memory of her: "Vanda always spoke about how great it was to travel both in planes and by hiking in the mountains of Capri with her soft backpack that always included a crochet ball gown."

Juhansoo was a graduate student of the Areneum art school and therefore one of the first female artists in Estonia who received higher education at the beginning of the 20th century. Her schoolmates were Juuli Suits and Alma Koskel-Johanson who were actively demanding women's rights, but also painters and carpet artists Oskar Allik and Adamson-Eric.

Between 1912 and 1945 Vanda participated in a number of the exhibition with her embroidered doilies and curtains (including the first Estonian women's exhibition in 1939). A lot of her creations have gone missing. Her work is more displayed in ethnographic museums rather than in art collections. This speaks a lot about the role and opportunities of a female artist at the time.



HISTORY CORNER

In 1931, Vanda bought herself a lot in Valgemetsa and in 1932 the construction of a house was finished that later turned to be a place of gatherings. The place was visited by her students as well as writers, artist and university lecturers. Vanda's freestyle architecture broke every rule of the conventional taste and the limits of rational building techniques but had supposedly matched naturally in the scenery and the land lady.

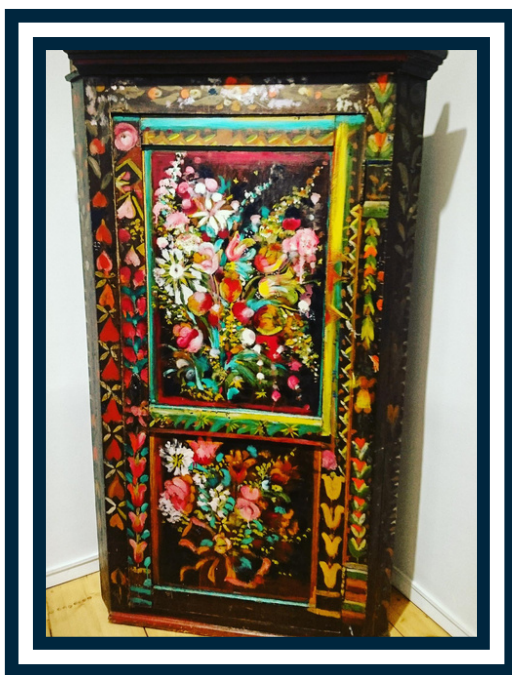
In the 1960s, Vanda had supposedly hosted over 200 excursions in her backyard. Her garden was exceptional because it lacked the vegetable garden and was scattered around the forest area. The River Ahja also played an important role with artificial barriers installed to make the water sounds audible in the garden. A wide range of memories have remained from Vanda thanks to her students who have described her as an exceptionally bright and optimistic person. **Vanda's unique style showed from her extraordinary outfits, colourful hair nets as well as from the lush jewellery and the amazing summerhouse and garden in Valgemetsa.**

Vanda's house has now new owners but people still visit the place. Some of the paintings on the window shields and indoors have remained until today. Vanda Juhansoo is buried in her home garden in Valgemetsa.

The author of the text and photos is **Piret Tänav**. The information is taken from the exhibition flyer "Vanda Juhansoo. An artist or an odd woman?" that was published for her previous exhibition in the Museum of Practical Art and Design 18.01–1.03.2020.



HISTORY CORNER





HISTORY CORNER

Rudolf Kallas and Elisabeth Luiga

The final resting place of Rudolf Georg Kallas was renovated and opened again festively at the Raadi Cemetery on May 22. The participants of this event included Urmas Klaas, the mayor of Tartu, student corporations, representatives of the organizations R. Kallas was involved in. In addition, the brass band of Väägvere was playing.

How is it all connected to our school?

When Elisabeth Saar (Luiga) graduated from the higher school in St Petersburg then she became a private teacher in the home of R. Kallas. Mr Kallas was a minister in Rõuge and one of his interns happened to be Mihkel Luiga who was studying to become a minister. So the two young people met and in 1898 also got married. As R. Kallas was a fellow-fighter of Jakob Hurt and a very Estonian-minded man then the spirit of nationality was present in their household that later led to the opening of Tartu ENKS Girls' Secondary School (MHG). Urmas Klaas also mentioned in his speech that the graves of the families of Kallas and Luiga are only a few steps away from one another and thanked Miina Härma Gümnaasium for keeping the graves clean.

Text and photo
by Urma Linnus

